Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method for a general packet radio service gateway (GGSN) to dynamically assign responsibility for controlling resource reservation protocol (RSVP) in order to support multimedia communications between a user equipment (UE) in a wireless communication network and a user of an external network, the method comprising:

determining whether the GGSN or the UE will perform the RSVP signaling;

if the GGSN determines the UE will perform the RSVP signaling;

the GGSN, sends the UE a message indicating that the UE will control the RSVP function; and

the UE signals the external network in order to reserve a path through the external network;

if the GGSN determines the GGSN will perform the RSVP signaling;

the GGSN sends the UE a message indicating that the GGSN will control the RSVP function; and

the GGSN signals the external network in order to reserve a path through the external network; and

dynamically reallocating control of the RSVP function to either the GGSN or the UE.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein control is dynamically reallocated based on traffic conditions.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein control is dynamically reallocated based on the availability of air link resources versus the availability of network resources.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein control is dynamically reallocated based on local policy.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of the UE signaling the external network in order to reserve a path through the external network further includes the steps of:

the UE sending a reservation path message to the external network through the wireless network;

the external network reserving path resources for the UE; and

the external network sending the UE a RSVP reservation message back through the wireless network.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of the GGSN signaling the external network in order to reserve a path through the external network, further includes the steps of:

the GGSN sending a reservation path message to the external network through the wireless network;

the external network reserving path resources for the GGSN; and

the external network sending the GGSN a RSVP reservation message back

through the wireless network.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

the UE periodically sending a path refresh message through the external network; and

upon receipt of the path refresh message, the external network maintaining its reservation of the path.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

the external network sending a UE a refresh reservation message indicating that the path will be maintained.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

the UE periodically sending a path refresh message through the external network; and

upon receipt of the path refresh message, the external network maintaining its reservation of the path.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

the external network sending a UE a refresh reservation message indicating that the path will be maintained.